M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 776 Press/Mis.

280—81

Dated 10—3— 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Memorandum on progress of opera-
-tions in connection with the
Periar Project up to the 15th
February 1869.

1 The lining out of the ghat and of the road from the head of the ghat to the site of the bund has been completed, and a considera-
-ble portion of it cleared.

2 A careful survey has been commenced, and very nearly com-
-pleted, of the river bed and banks, and of the ground above to the maximum extent likely to be covered by the bund, and escape. This survey has been made with sufficient care and minuteness, to enable the ground to be accurately contoured.

3 The completion of this survey will I expect, take four or five days more, after which I wish if possible to take a series of cross sections, of the ground to be included in the cutting. This work will probably take five or six days,

more, after which there does not appear to be anything essential to be done this Season.

4 I expect therefore to be able to leave the hills by the end of this month, though I do not think there would be any risk in remaining some time longer, if occasion arose. As yet we have had no signs of sickness amongst the Coolies. We have now upwards of 200 here, a party of 40 having come up today to ask for work, so that it is evident the people themselves have at present no fear of the fever. In point of fact, I believe, that the unhealthiness of these hills (or at least of the more open parts of them) has been very much exaggerated, though the jungle at the foot of them, and perhaps the more wooded parts of the hills themselves, may be quite as unhealthy as is usually supposed.

5 We have had some heavy showers during the begining of this month, and on one occasion a rather sudden fresh of about 5 feet in the Periar, the height and velocity of which have been noted for future use.

6 The remark of the Government

upon my progress report for December as communicated in the Superintending Engineer's Memo No 2676 of the 8th instant, viz that "they regret that means have not been devised for employing the full number of coolies available" appears to have been made under a misapprehension of the circumstances. The number of coolies actually employed was as many as were wanted at the time. The clearing at the bund site was finished quite as fast as it was wanted, and our work has never been delayed in the least on that account. I should be sorry, if the Government supposed, as the remark quoted appears to imply, that any thing necessary to the energetic prosecution of the work had been neglected.

Camp Periar
15th February 1869

(Signed) J. Pennycuick Lt RE
Executive Engineer on Special duty

(True Copy)

No 2648

I consider the Officers should not remain on the hills after the survey of the bund, and sections near the ridge are completed at the end of this month. There are elevated hills

in the vicinity, which are probably free from fever at all times: but I have strong misgivings as to the camp being safe in the hot weather. This season has been favorable from showers falling after the actual monsoon time: but it would be unwise to trust to further immu=nity: and altho' there is no record as to the site of encampment 30 years ago: we know that the late Colonel Faber's attempt to divert the China Mullyar, was suddenly brought to an end, by fever attacking the workmen.

Chas. Prendergast Captain R.E.
Offg Supg Engr 8th Dn

Supg Engr's Office 8th Dn
Pudugudi 25th Febry 1869

To
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

P

P.W. 1869 Dept.
No. 2648
Pro. of Govt. for March
9th 896

From
The Offg. Superintg. Engr.
8th Division

To
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
Madras

Dated 25th February
Recd. - 5 Mch. 69 1869
No. 776 - 10th March 1869
6th

Submits with re-
-marks Lieutenant
Pennycuick's Memo-
-randum on progress
of Operations in Con-
-nection with Peryaur
Project upto the
15th February 1869.

No 280

Public Works Deptt.

Proceedings of No. 776 the Madras Government

Under date the 10th March 69

Read the following

From the C.V.D.G. Supg. Engr. 8th Dn. } Here enter No. 2648 d/ 25th Feby 1869

The Government concur with the Supg. Engr. in considering it inadvisable that the operations in the vicinity of the Pennyaur should be continued during the present month, and as it would appear from ~~Captain~~ Lieutenant Pennycuicks report that the surveys on which he and Lieut. Coaker were engaged, would probably be completed by the end of February they conclude

that both Officers will
by this time have move
to the plains -

His Excellency in
Council will not object
to ~~Captn.~~ Lieutenants Pennycuick
and Lieutt Coaker re
siding on the Pulney
Hills for such time as
they may require for
drawing out their plans
and reports of the work
executed during the
season, but he considers
it very desirable that
their stay there should
not be protracted, and
that the considerable
period which must
elapse before the operations

on the Periyaur can be resumed, should be made available for an examination of the river Sooroolly, with the view to its being ascertained what modification of the existing irrigation works on that river or of the channel of the river itself would prove to be necessary in the event of the supply from the Periyaur being led into it. The Supdt. will accordingly issue instructions for the preparation of the survey which will be necessary to elicit this information

On the explanation furnished by Lieutenant Captn Pennycuick, the Govt are satisfied that he

he has done every
thing that was re
quired for the en:
=ergetic prosecution
of the works at the
Perryam.

[illegible initials]

Dubo in M. S. to both 19/3/59
" — R. C. [illegible] 17/3/59

S. Engr 8' Div.
Rev Dept.
Chief Engr for Irrigation

Circ896

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr. 8th Division

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 10th March 1869, No. 776

Nos. 280-281

Perryaur Project. Papers orders on the Endorsement of the Supy Engr. of the 8th Dn submitting, with remarks, a Memo. shewing the progress of operations in connection with the Perryaur Project, Madura Dt, up to the 15th February, 69.